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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HIROHIKO ITOH ) Examiner: D. Tran  
Application No.: 09/322,177 ) Group Art Unit: 2624  
Filed: May 28, 1999 )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING )  
APPARATUS AND IMAGE )  
PROCESSING METHOD ) January 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

JAN 28 2004

Technology Center 2600

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Sir:

Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2003, for one month from December 25, 2003, to January 25, 2004.

Submitted herewith is a check for \$110.00 to cover the fee for the extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. Any deficiency in or overpayment of this fee should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this petition is enclosed.

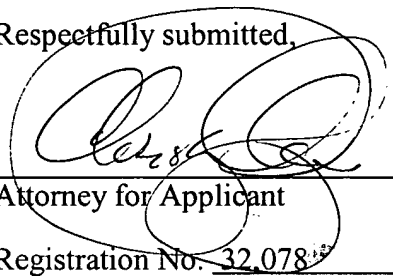
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Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 32,078

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